

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

### LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A crosstalk improvement module intervening between a first polarization maintaining fiber and a second polarization maintaining fiber, comprising:
  - a first lens for making an output light from the first polarization maintaining fiber a parallel light;
  - a polarizer for converting the parallel light into a linearly polarized light;
  - a splitter for splitting an output light of the polarizer;
  - a second lens for concentrating one of the lights split by the splitter and supplying the split light to the second polarization maintaining fiber; and
  - a photoreceptor for receiving the other split light split by the splitter; wherein the splitter is arranged between the polarizer and the second lens.
2. (currently amended): A crosstalk improvement module intervening between a first polarization maintaining fiber and a second polarization maintaining fiber, comprising:
  - a first lens for making an output light from the first polarization maintaining fiber a parallel light;
  - a polarizer for converting the parallel light into a linearly polarized light;
  - a splitter for splitting an output light of the polarizer;
  - a second lens for concentrating one of the lights split by the splitter and supplying the split light to the second polarization maintaining fiber; and
  - a monitor fiber for receiving the other split light split by the splitter;  
wherein the splitter is arranged between the polarizer and the second lens.
3. (original): The crosstalk improvement module, according to Claim 1 or 2, comprising driving means for controlling a current of a light source to the first polarization maintaining fiber according to an output from the photoreceptor or the monitor fiber.

4. (currently amended): A crosstalk improvement module intervening between a first polarization maintaining fiber and a second polarization maintaining fiber, comprising:

a first lens for making an output light from the first polarization maintaining fiber a parallel light;

a polarizer for converting the parallel light into a linearly polarized light;

a splitter for splitting an output light of the polarizer;

a second lens for concentrating one of the lights split by the splitter and supplying the split light to the second polarization maintaining fiber;

a photoreceptor for receiving the other light split by the splitter; and

a variable optical attenuator, provided in a front stage or a rear stage of the polarizer, for varying an input light, wherein the variable optical attenuator is controlled according to an output from the photoreceptor, and wherein the splitter is arranged between the polarizer and the second lens.

5. (previously presented): The crosstalk improvement module, according to any one of Claims 1, 2 and 4 wherein

the first polarization maintaining fiber is connected to an input terminal of the crosstalk improvement module by a receptacle.

6. (previously presented): The crosstalk improvement module, according to any one of Claims 1, 2 and 4 wherein

an optical component conforming to the polarization maintaining fiber is connected in a final stage of a system cascading a plurality of states.

7. (previously presented): The crosstalk improvement module, according to Claim 3, wherein

the first polarization maintaining fiber is connected to an input terminal of the crosstalk improvement module by a receptacle.

8. (previously presented): The crosstalk improvement module, according to Claim 3, wherein

an optical component conforming to the polarization maintaining fiber is connected in a final stage of a system cascading a plurality of stages.

9. (previously presented): The crosstalk improvement module, according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 4 wherein

the first polarization maintaining fiber is connected to an input terminal of the crosstalk improvement module by a receptacle; and

an optical component conforming to the polarization maintaining fiber is connected in a final stage of a system cascading a plurality of stages.